INFO-HAMS Digest Wed, 25 Oct 89 Volume 89 : Issue 803

Today's Topics:

Date: Wed, 25 Oct 89 10:03:16 EDT
From: Michael Harpe <MEHARP01%ULKYVM.BITNET@CORNELLC.cit.cornell.edu>
Subject: Aviation NAVAIDS (long)

Aviation NAVAIDS are some of the slicker applications of radio technology that you will ever find. Here is a brief core dump of what I know about them. My apologies if some of the actual technical info is incorrect or incomplete. My knowledge is mostly from the user view since my father is a retired air traffic controller. In that spirit, here's Mike's Little List of NAVAIDS:

VOR - Stands for VHF Omni Ranging (I think). System uses a ground-based transmitter that sends a phase encoded signal that looks like a "radio compass" to the receiver. Pilot uses a receiver in the cockpit to home in on the VOR. There is a huge network of these transmitters around the country. They form the nodes of a large grid of aerial highways that are used for navigation. A typical transmission using a VOR may sound like "Cessna 27G, turn right heading 240 proceed direct MYSTIC." This instructs the pilot to turn onto heading 240 degrees and follow the signal from the MYSTIC VOR to the VOR. When he gets there, he will either receive further instructions or follow his flight plan. VOR's were one of the earliest NAVAIDS.

ILS - Instrument Landing System. System uses radio signals (I don't know what frequency, I think microwave) to generate a glide slope signal to landing aircraft. This allows a pilot to land an aircraft safely in marginal conditions. Most airliners use ILS even in clear weather because it's actually easier. The pilot just follows an indicator in the cockpit which indicates if his rate and angle of descent are correct. If you want to hear irritated pilots, catch your airfield with it's prime runway's ILS down! :-). Approach control will handle the aircraft until it reaches the "outer marker" of the ILS. This is the first indication received from the ILS. Generally approach will tell the aircraft to contact the tower at that point with "TWA 424, contact the tower 120.3 at the outer marker."

DME - Distance Measuring Equipment. Related to VOR. Gives a dead
reckoning distance to the NAVAID generating the signal. An optional
addition to VOR's. Useful with a busy VOR or a remote one. If you have
VOR and DME in your plane (not all do, it's not required) it's really
difficult to get lost. Also nice when setting up for an approach.

Those are the three that I know something about. Hope you found this
useful. If you really want to learn how these aids work, the latest
version of Microsoft Flight Simulator does simulate these three aids.
My brother tells me the simulations are quite good.

"Just STOP your pathetic whining!" - David Letterman

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Phenylketonurics: Contains Phenylalanine

Date: Wed, 25 Oct 89 09:15:22 -0700
From: Doug Faunt N6TQS 415-688-8269 <faunt@cisco.com>
Subject: callsign database????

Look in the FCC Rulebook published by ARRL. The previous edition, at
least, has a 'phone number that you can call to find out this
information.

Date: 25 Oct 89 14:08:17 GMT
From: gem.mps.ohio-state.edu!lavaca.uh.edu!uhnix1!splut!jay@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu
(Jay "you ignorant splut!" Maynard)
Subject: Consumer info?

In article <8910240703.AA05502@ucbvax.Berkeley.EDU> faunt@CISCO.COM (Doug Faunt
N6TQS 415-688-8269) writes:
>Does anyone have anything good or bad to say about Madison Electronics
>Supply in Houston TX? They have the Kenwood TM731 for $599. until the
>end of November.

I've been dealing with them for about the last 15 years, and have been
satisfied. I know some folks that had minor problems with equipment
purchased there, and Don, K5AAD, who runs the place, has always been

quick to solve the problem.

--
Jay Maynard, EMT-P, K5ZC, PP-ASEL | Never ascribe to malice that which can
jay@splut.conmicro.com   (eieio)| adequately be explained by stupidity.
{attctc,bellcore}!texbell!splut!jay +---------------------------------------
  Gandhi II: no more Mr. Passive Resistance...he's back to kick some butt!

Date: 25 Oct 89 19:42:19 GMT
From: cs.utexas.edu!ut-emx!oo7@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu (Your Tax Dollars At Work)
Subject: DXCC and Rule 3(b)

  Regarding Rule 3(b), can someone point to a specific case where the
rule has been used either to include or exclude a particular 'country'?
(I don't mean Tad KT7H's recent Dxpedition :-)).

Derek Wills (AA5BT, G3NMX)
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Date: 25 Oct 89 09:35:00 CST
From: "CHERA1::CHRISTIANSEN" <christiansen%chera1.decnet@chewi.che.wisc.edu>
Subject: INTERESTING SNIPPETS

> Date: 24 Oct 89 19:14:12 GMT
> From: agate!shelby!portia!jessica!paulf@ucbvax.Berkeley.EDU (Paul Flaherty)
> Subject: INTERESTING SNIPPETS
>
> [...]
>
> Aha! So that's why the FCC needs a $35 license fee! Gee, I'll sleep a lot

To be fair, Paul, it is the elected yahoos in the House and Senate
that have suggested this fee. Any fees (taxes) collected will not
go to the FCC, as has been previously stated. The FCC is clean,
this time.

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Reed L. Christiansen UW Polymerization Reaction Engineering Laboratory
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Date: 25 Oct 89 19:18:19 GMT
From: winter@apple.com (Patty Winter)
Subject: Looking for comments on ham demos

Have any of you ever done amateur radio demonstrations for children
(or other age groups) in institutions such as convalescent hospitals?

It seems to me that such demos could really brighten the day of kids
who are otherwise bored and maybe scared. I'm wondering what kind of
demo someone in that situation might like: VHF or HF? Fancy stuff like
autodialers, or ordinary chitchat? DXing or stateside?

I'd also be curious whether the institutions might be nervous about
RF interfering with medical equipment, possible liabilities of having
the kids around live antennas and electrical equipment, etc.

Any comments?

Patty

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Patty Winter N6BIS   INTERNET: winter@apple.com
AMPR.ORG: [44.4.0.44]   UUCP: {decwrl,nsc,sun}!apple!winter
****

Date: 25 Oct 89 20:09:06 GMT
From: gem.mps.ohio-state.edu!uakari.primate.wisc.edu!uwm.edu!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!
deimos.cis.ksu.edu!harris.cis.ksu.edu!mac@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu (Myron A.
Calhoun)
Subject: Looking for comments on ham demos

In article <35916@apple.Apple.COM> winter@apple.com (Patty Winter) writes:
>Have any of you ever done amateur radio demonstrations for children
>(or other age groups) in institutions such as convalescent hospitals?

[several lines deleted]

>I'd also be curious whether the institutions might be nervous about
>RF interfering with medical equipment, possible liabilities of having
>the kids around live antennas and electrical equipment, etc.

I've read a posting on some usegroup within the last few days saying

that at least one hospital did NOT allow the use of ham radio gear
from inside the hospital by either patients or visitors. However,
QST once carried an article about hams using radios around Christmas
time to let sick children talk to Santa Claus. Guess you'll have
to ask your local hospital.
--Myron

--
Myron A. Calhoun, PhD EE, W0PBV, (913) 532-6350 (work), 539-4448 (home).
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BITNET: mac@ksuvax1.bitnet
UUCP: ...{rutgers, texbell}!ksuvax1!harry!mac

Date: 25 Oct 89 11:41:17 GMT
From: att!cbnewsc!parnass@ucbvax.Berkeley.EDU (Bob Parnass, AJ9S)
Subject: PL259 connector assembly

> In article <7880085@hpfcdc.HP.COM> perry@hpfcdc.HP.COM (Perry Scott) writes:
> On the other hand, you can never reuse the PL259
>after you solder those four little holes on the side.

When I was a kid and couldn't afford to buy new PL-259s (they were
fifty cents in 1965), I used my Dad's electric drill to drill out the
solder from the four holes and reuse the connectors.

There are some PL-259s that I would never use, like the ones
with a meltable insulator -- it looks white, like teflon, but
it melts like cheese.

Also, I've not been able to get solder to stick to AVA brand
connectors, so I only use Amphenol PL-259s, with silver plated body
when available.

I use the same coax preparation process that John KB8RY described, but
spray silicone spray on the black coax jacket before screwing on the
connector barrel. My soldering tool of choice is a behemoth 60 watt GE
solding iron (not a gun) to solder RG-213/U to PL-259s.
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Bob Parnass, AJ9S - AT&T Bell Laboratories - att!ihuxz!parnass (312)979-5414

Date: 25 Oct 89 22:18:15 GMT
From: eru!luth!sunic!tut!kannel!huopio@bloom-beacon.mit.edu (Kauto Huopio)
Subject: Radar

In article <5110@cps3xx.UUCP> usenet@cps3xx.UUCP (Usenet file owner) writes:

> Is all this we're hearing in the press about a Russian radar the
> obnoxious over the horizon radar known as the "woodpecker"? I hope
> so, and I hope they dismantle it soon. Good riddance!
>
> (I don't operate HF, but I remember it from earlier days.)

-Well, I think that there is one over tho horizon radar site in the USA too..

(And that's my opinion)
_kauto
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********** Kauto Huopio (huopio@kannel.lut.fi) **********
*US Mail: Kauto Huopio, Punkkerikatu 1 A 10, SF-53850 Lappeenranta, Finland *
*Project: Learn some GNU Emacs first.. :-)   *
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End of INFO-HAMS Digest V89 Issue #803
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